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My dear Mr. Secretary:

The Federal Republic of Germany has been re-establishing their Research and Development Offices in the Defense Ministry and in their industry. Recently Dr. L. T. E. Thompson and a Joint Research and Development Team including Mr. Macauley, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Development, were here with a view to assist the Federal Ministry of Defense in their research and development problems including advice in the implementation of the recently agreed U.S./German Mutual Weapons Development Program.

One major item which was discussed with Dr. Thompson and is paramount in the minds of German Government Representatives is the earliest stoppage by the U. S. Government of the currently supported Scientist Recruitment Programs which are encouraging the permanent migration of German scientists for employment in the United States. I have been informed by the MAAG here that this recruitment is authorized by Department of Defense and State Department policies, and implemented in Germany by the U. S. Army Europe as a joint service to the three Military Departments. These programs may be summarized as follows:

"Project 61" enables Army, Navy and Air Force Technical Services to offer specific jobs to German scientists in accordance with State-War-Navy policy decision of 3 September 1946.

"Project 63" authorizes, in accordance with JCS Document of November 1950, the employment of German and Austrian scientists.

The Honorable,
John Foster Dulles,
Secretary of State,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

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The Honorable John Foster Dulles

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"National Interest Cases" assists American industry in locating, screening German scientists who wish to migrate and whose efforts in the United States will assist in the defense of the Western world.

These projects have brought about 1,000 German scientists to the United States with two hundred more applicants still being processed. Such recruitment by all former occupying countries and Germany's post-war training gap has left them considerably deficient in militarily skilled scientists. These operations were highly beneficial and appropriate while Germany was not an active partner in Western Defense, but with Germany now a member of NATO, I consider it essential that they be discontinued. Unless this is done promptly, we cannot hope that Germany will truly cooperate with us in developing a joint weapons research program. In this connection, I note that the Department has already found it advisable to discourage recruitment of German technicians by the U. S. aircraft industry (CA-3957, November 21, 1955).

I recommend that this matter be taken up with the Secretary of Defense for an early solution before we are faced with a formal complaint by the German Government against a continuing U. S. recruitment program which has no parallel in any other Allied country.

Yours sincerely,

James B. Conant
James B. Conant
American Ambassador

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